

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 105114  
ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 IO-13 AID-05 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /096 R

DRAFTED BY HA/HR:RMMAXIM:DJR  
APPROVED BY HA:PDERIAN  
AF/W:RHART  
AF/I:LGSBURTLEFF

-----050704 251743Z /42

P 251528Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 105114

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, GH

SUBJECT: U. S. RESPONSE TO ARREST OF GHANIAN OPPOSITION  
LEADERS

REFERENCE: ACCRA 3169

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES INFORMAL DEMARCHES TO GOG  
OFFICIALS REPORTED REF TEL. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL  
FOR EMBASSY TO CONVEY FORMALLY AT HIGHEST APPROPRIATE  
LEVEL OF GHANIAN GOVERNMENT OUR CONCERN OVER ARRESTS OF  
OPPOSITION LEADERS. UNLESS EMBASSY PERCEIVES OVERRIDING  
OBJECTIONS, YOU SHOULD DRAW UPON FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS  
IN MAKING REPRESENTATION:

A. U. S. CONCERNED THAT RECENT ARRESTS CONTRADICT GHANIAN  
GOVERNMENT'S DECLARED INTENTIONS TO RETURN TO  
CONSTITUTIONAL NORMS IN GHANA.

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B. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY INFORMATION OR EXPLANATIONS THAT  
GHANIAN AUTHORITIES MAY WISH TO SHARE WITH US CONCERNING  
JUSTIFICATION FOR ARRESTS (BEYOND PUBLICLY STATED CHARGES  
OF SUBVERSION).

C. WE ANTICIPATE PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES ABOUT

THE ARRESTS, PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO U. S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY UNDER WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO DETERMINE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS, AND OUR VOTES IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (E. G., AFDF) IN LARGE PART ACCORDING TO HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS OF COUNTRIES CONCERNED.

D. WE WOULD PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE ASSURANCES THAT DETAINEES WILL BE AVAILABLE FULLY AND PROMPTLY OF DUE JUDICIAL PROCESS UNDER GHANIAN LAW.

2. FYI: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (AI) RELEASED NEWS COMMUNIQUE ON APRIL 13 EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER ARREST OF "UP TO 50" PERSONS AND NOTED SPECULATIONS ABOUT "VALIDITY" OF MARCH 30 REFERENDUM. AI ANNOUNCED IT WAS INQUIRING OF GOG ABOUT ARRESTS AND CALLING FOR RELEASE OF "SEVERAL HUNDRED PEOPLE" DETAINED PREVIOUSLY. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARRESTS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, POLITICAL LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE105114  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RMMAXIM:DJR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 ACCRA 3169  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Subject:** U. S. RESPONSE TO ARREST OF GHANIAN OPPOSITION LEADERS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PINT, GH  
**To:** ACCRA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014